

TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL, AND CHEMICAL APPLICATION (LT) SPECIAL PROVISIONS

In addition to the attached General Provisions (TR-0045), the following special provisions are applicable:

I. GENERAL

1. Traffic control is authorized only from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Any traffic control that requires lane closure shall be in compliance with the appropriate traffic control plan. Where required by the plan, the use of a flashing arrowboard is MANDATORY.
2. All debris shall be removed from the right of way and the area left in a safe and presentable condition at the end of each work day.
3. Climbing Spurs shall not be used except when removing trees or when working in the tops of Eucalyptus, Palms and Conifers.
4. Head back trim consists of reducing the height and/or spread of a tree by not more than one third. Head back trim is performed by a method called "drop crotch" pruning, which permits the preservation of a natural appearing foliage margin. Drop crotch pruning consists of removing perimeter branches at their junction with shorter branches. The shorter branches are retained intact to form a new foliage margin at the specified height and/or spread.

II. TREE TRIMMING

Tree trimming shall be performed by or under the detailed supervision of a qualified tree trimmer and the work must conform to the following:

1. In general, only light trimming of annual growth 2" (51 mm) or less in diameter will be permitted. The basic structure of the tree must be preserved. All large cuts shall be painted.
2. All trees shall be left in a symmetrical shape that is characteristic to their species.
3. This Permit alone does not grant permission to trim trees which are wholly or partly on private property. Permission must also be secured from the local property owner before trimming these trees.
4. Permittee shall trim excessive growth on the sides or top of the tree in all instances where it is obvious that previous pruning practices (topping and/or side trimming) are the cause of the excessive growth over State or adjacent private property. The finished tree shall be balanced and symmetrical.

5. Crown reduction shall be accomplished by use of selective trimming, not directive. Cuts, whenever possible, shall be made at strong laterals. Stubbing and/or shear pruning will not be permitted.
6. Limbs larger than 2" (51 mm) in diameter may be removed for restructuring of the crown framework or to remove undesirable growth. Entire limbs may be cut off at the trunk. Care must be taken to avoid large holes in the canopy or to avoid creating unbalanced trees.
7. Trimming which would have the effect of forcing an unbalanced side growth or hazardous overhang on the highway will not be permitted. Under these conditions, proper thinning and heading in will be required before top or center trimming is permitted. The terminal bud of the leader shall not be removed.
8. Restructuring growth shall be cut for removal of crows nests or brooms. Locate these cuts at strong laterals on older wood. Thinning by selective trimming or drop crotching for a more open canopy is desirable. The terminal bud shall not be removed.
9. Pruning should be done only to maintain minimum required clearances for a two year (2) maximum period.
10. All Elm trees shall be pruned and debris removed according to Department of Forestry Regulations.
11. All Pines shall be pruned and debris removed according to recommendations of Department of Forestry to prevent spread of pitch canker.
12. Final pruning cuts shall be made without leaving a stub. They shall be made in a manner to favor the earliest possible covering of the wound by callus growth. This requires that the wound be as small as practicable; the cut be reasonably flush and within the shoulder ring area; and that the cambial tissues at the edge of the cut be alive and healthy. Extremely flush cuts that produce large wounds and weaken the tree at the cut shall not be made.

III. TREE REMOVAL

1. When permit is issued for removal of a tree as an independent operation or as a part of other work, the entire stump shall be taken out for a depth of at least 2' (0.6 m) below the ground surface. All debris shall be removed from the right of way. The hole left by the stump shall be backfilled and thoroughly tamped and the site left in a safe presentable condition.

IV. CHEMICAL CONTROL

1. Chemical applications to trees located on scenic highways shall not be authorized.
2. Chemical applications shall be made only after approval of County Agricultural Commissioner.